

the simplicity of construction that could be followed were points strongly emphasized.

Dr. T. V. Jordan, of the University of Tennessee, next told of his experience in feeding silage to export cattle. This was certainly an excellent address, and is evidence of the practical value of silage for the winter maintenance of cattle. Mr. W. D. Browder, of Pinhook Landing, and W. H. George, of Chandler, also spoke on this subject, and gave some very interesting and instructive facts. Col. S. E. Young, of Sweetwater, told of the value of silage for the maintenance of the dairy cow. He regarded it as indispensable. Prof. John R. Fain, of the Tennessee Experiment Station, gave a summary of two years' results in feeding beef cattle on silage. He showed that the cattle had gained more than two pounds per day throughout a period of one hundred and fifty days and that these gains were made at a surprisingly low cost.

Col. J. A. Reagan, of Sweetwater, next followed with "My Experience With Grasses and Clover." He gave some very practical suggestions with reference to this topic. Mr. P. O. Vanatter, of the Tennessee Experiment Station, then discussed "Alfalfa and Grass for Hay and Grazing." He stated that under proper conditions alfalfa could be grown successfully in Tennessee, but that the land must be thoroughly and carefully prepared. This was the key to success.

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Chattanooga, through Mr. C. W. Holbrook, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, presented an invitation to the convention to meet in that city next year. He was given a vote of thanks, and the matter was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act. Resolutions were then adopted asking the State Legislature to give the Experiment Station at least \$20,000 annually for maintenance and support; approving the farmers' institute system as conducted by Commissioner W. W. Ogilvie; thanking the World's Fair Commission and the railroads for the special rates, and asking the Legislature to give the Agricultural Department of the University the support it deserved. Resolutions were also passed favoring compulsory education and the establishment of chairs of veterinary science and entomology and a poultry department in the University of Tennessee; the secretary was highly complimented for his work, and the membership fee was fixed by amendment of the constitution at \$1 per year. The following officers were then elected: President, W. Gettys, Athens; Vice-President for Life, O. P. Temple, Knoxville; Secretary, Andrew M. Soule, Knoxville; Assistant Secretary, G. B. Wheeler, Morristown.

The convention then adjourned to visit the University farm in the afternoon. A special train of street cars was placed at the disposal of the delegates by the Knoxville Traction Company, and more than seven hundred reached the farm about 2 o'clock. The 1,200 grass and grain plats were visited and the beautiful farm, with its fine growing crops, was the subject of much admiration and favorable comment. When the stables were reached the stock received its due share of attention. The excellent dairy herd, splendid beef cattle and Berkshire hogs were greatly admired. Prof. Soule spoke on the requirements of good beef cattle, illustrating his remarks with a group of Hereford steers fed on silage for the past six months at the Experiment Station. These animals were almost perfect specimens of the breed, and it is safe to say that the object lesson thus presented will do much towards improving the quality of cattle kept on the average Tennessee farm. At the close of the stock judging demonstrations, conducted by Profs. Plumb, Fain and Soule, the delegates were all seated on the grass and given light refreshments. This constitutes the great annual social feature of the convention, and it is needless to say that it is thoroughly enjoyed. In fact, it is hard to describe the real pleasure it affords the delegates.

In conclusion, it is only necessary to say that the value of the Convention cannot be estimated. It is so far-reaching in its influence by reason of its representative nature that the benefits of the information derived from it are everywhere observable. It is doing a wonderful work for this section of the South, and the fervent prayer of its hundreds of well-wishers may be briefly summed up in "long may it live and prosper."

ANDREW M. SOULE, Sec.

Tennessee Experiment Station, Knoxville.

## GENERAL NEWS

### The Lesser Events of Last Week.

The long contemplated attack on Port Arthur by the Japanese began.

Levi Z. Leiter, the Chicago multi-millionaire, died at Bar Harbor.

Negotiations for the release of the American Perdicaris are still in progress.

Cotton manufacturers in Georgia have resolved to maintain present prices for their goods.

Rear Admiral Sigsbee cables that all ports in Santo Domingo are again open and the revolution is ended.

The flood in the Arkansas River is at a standstill; irreparable damage has been done to cotton and other crops.

The Delaware Democratic State Convention instructed the delegation to St. Louis to present Judge George Gray for President.

The Colorado Democratic Convention voted down a resolution to instruct for Hearst, but reaffirmed the Kansas City platform.

Steps have been taken to exterminate all the unions in the Cripple Creek district of Colorado. The only union mine has been closed.

Attorney General Knox has been selected as United States Senator to fill the place made vacant by the death of Senator Quay.

Martial law was declared in Teller County, Colorado, and a condition of despotism and deportation of union men followed Monday's rioting.

By a vote of five to four the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that residents of the Philippines are not entitled to the right of trial by jury.

The Virginia Democratic State Convention recommended Parker for President, but did not bind its delegates by instructions. The primary plan was perpetuated.

American missionary societies are urging the Administration to press their claims for indemnity for losses sustained in Turkey by the destruction of their property.

Senator Bailey, of Texas, is slated for temporary chairman, and John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, for permanent chairman of the National Democratic Convention.

The Government has nolle prossed the remaining indictments against Harrison J. Barrett, who was tried and acquitted recently of charges connected with the alleged frauds in the Postoffice Department.

The Texas Populist State Convention selected delegates to the National Convention to be held at Springfield, Ill., July 4. All the delegates are uninstructed as to a candidate, but they personally favor Tom Watson of Georgia.

Articles of incorporation have been filed at Indianapolis, Ind., for the organization of a company which proposes to build a through trolley line from Chicago, Ill., to Indianapolis, to compete with steam roads in both freight and passenger traffic.

The reorganization of the rural free delivery service under the new law will be made in July 1. The eight divisions are to be reduced to six and other changes made. The pay of carriers will be fixed at \$720 for routes of not less than twenty miles; \$620 less than twenty and not less than sixteen; \$520 less than sixteen and not less than twelve; \$420 less than twelve and not less than eight; \$320 less than eight and not less than four.

Watch the date on your label and renew before your subscription expires. A paper like The Progressive Farmer cannot be published at \$1 a year unless every subscriber renews promptly.

### The Cotton Acreage Shows Increase of 9.8 Per Cent Over Last Year.

The chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture estimates the total area planted in cotton in the United States this season at 31,730,371 acres, an increase of 2,823,016 over acreage planted last year.

The average condition of the growing crop on May 26 was 83 as compared with 74.1 on May 26, 1903; 95.1 at the corresponding date in 1902, and a ten year average of 85.85.

The percentage of increase in acreage in the different States (the comparison being with the area planted last season), is as follows:

Virginia, 19.0; North Carolina, 13.5; South Carolina, 9.0; Georgia, 7.7; Florida, 10.7; Alabama, 9.0; Mississippi, 10.5; Louisiana, 13.5; Texas, 7.1; Arkansas, 9.3; Tennessee, 11.5; Missouri, 23.0; Oklahoma, 29.2; Indian Territory, 26.0.

### Conditions at Port Arthur.

In the fortress itself the situation is said to be disagreeable if not desperate. Famine prices rule. The cost of provisions increases weekly. Many persons are reduced to eating Chinese food, and even that is dear. Millet flour costs \$6 a bag. Whole streets and several public buildings have been wrecked by Japanese shell fire. The hospitals are packed with wounded. The poorer Chinese are already dying of starvation. Theft has been made punishable by death. Since the Japanese occupied Dalny, May 30, the isolation of Port Arthur has been practically complete. This stronghold has proved a great care and burden to the Russians; yet in 1897, when Russia relieved China of its guardianship, she was supposed to have acquired a very fine piece of property. Port Arthur, in the now so popular naval terminology, "commands" the Yellow Sea, and is thus a "key" to northern Asia. By owning this fortress, Russia was believed to be impregnable entrenched in Asia. As a matter of fact, its possession has proved to be only a burden, and Russia would be very much better off to-day if she had evacuated it at the beginning of the war. —Albany Country Gentleman.

### Facts Worth Knowing About the Panama Canal.

Estimated cost of the Panama Canal, \$200,000,000.

Amount paid French Company for the title, \$40,000,000.

Amount paid Panama Government for perpetual lease of canal lands, \$10,000,000.

Length of canal, 46 miles.

Canal width varies from 250 to 500 feet at the top, the bottom width being 150 feet.

There will be five twin locks of concrete masonry, each lock 738 feet long and 82 feet wide, with a lifting capacity of 30 to 32 feet.

Lake Bohio (artificial) covers 31 square miles.

Alhajuela Lake (artificial) covers 5,900 acres, and will furnish motive power for operating the locks and lighting the canal from ocean to ocean.

Distance from New York to San Francisco by old route, 13,714 miles; by the route through the canal, 5,299 miles.

Distance from New York to Manila by present route via San Francisco and Yokohama, 19,530 miles.

Distance from New York to Manila by Panama Canal via San Francisco and Yokohama, 11,585 miles.

Distance saved in a sailing-trip around the world by the new route through the Panama Canal, 2,768 miles.

The Panama Canal was practically begun in 1883 by the French Company. They had completed about two-fifths of the length, when, because of fraudulent management, the company failed, and the work ceased in 1889.—June Woman's Home Companion.